would be very much more serious than it was found to be afterwards. The water was rising, and I had a telegram from the Deputy Tahsildar to say that there was great panic and distress in the place. Nobody knew at that time the extent to which it would go.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—How far are Arattupula and Kottlappara from the place where cars can go ?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Cars could then go only up to Urakam.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—What is the distance from Urakam to Arattupula ?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—If you take the northernmost end of it, the distance is small, but if you take the southern end, the distance is over a mile.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—The place where cars could go ?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Up to Urakam.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—From there what will be the distance ?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—The nearest place will be a little more than a mile and a half.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Kottlappara ?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—It will be 2 and a half miles. You could not have gone there. It was all a sheet of water. Ask Mr. Seethi, he will tell you.

Difference in the measurement of timber and reduction in price.

214. **Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.**—Will the Government be pleased to state what was the difference in the measurement of timber and what was the amount of money reduced on account of the difference by the Conservator of Forests on remeasurement in the matter referred to in the answer to question No. 607 of the Legislative Session of 1104 ?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—The book measurement was Cds. 2,091—1—8—7 3/4. The actual measurement as recorded by the Conservator of Forests was Cds. 1,491—3—11—10.

No reduction was made.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know who did this book measurment ?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—The Divisional Forest Officer.

Loss sustained on account of the sale of timber to Mr. Namberumal Chetti and others.

215. **Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.**—Will the Government

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be pleased to state what is the loss estimated by the Comptroller of Accounts in 1102 on audit of the accounts of Messrs. T. Nambermual Chetti and Sons, Mugaseth and Sons and V. K. Ammunni Menon as required in question No. 623 (6) of the Legislative Session of 1104 ?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—The Comptroller of Accounts has not estimated the loss.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.— The answer given on the last occasion was not that there was no information but 'the information cannot be published now.' The question was what is the loss estimated by the Comptroller of Accounts in 1102 on account of the accounts of Messrs. T. Namberumal Chetti, Mugaseth and V. K. Ammunni Menon. The answer was the information cannot be published now. The present answer seems to be that the Comptroller of Accounts has not estimated the loss. Therefore, no information was available at the time when this answer was given.

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—The Comptroller of Accounts has not estimated the loss. That is the reply. The question is what is the loss estimated by the Comptroller of Accounts. The Comptroller has not estimated the loss.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—On a previous occasion the Government has stated that the information cannot be published now. That will make one assume that there was information but it could not be published at that time. But the present answer will show that there was no information at all available, because if it was not estimated, there can be no information. I want to know whether any information was available when the first answer was given, on 30th Meenam 1104 ?

President.—So the question assumes that the Comptroller is the only person who can estimate the loss.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—That was the question on the last occasion.

President.—With reference to the loss it has no reference to the Comptroller of Accounts. Some explanation is necessary to reconcile the answer. The answer shows that there was information available. But due to certain circumstances you are not able to disclose that at that time. Why not state then and there that the Comptroller has not estimated the loss ?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—That was under correspondence.

President.—Whether it was under correspondence or not, I think some mistake has been made. Why not admit the mistake frankly? Both the questions, the former one and the present one, relate to the estimation of the loss by the Comptroller of

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Accounts. The former answer was thought to imply that there was a loss estimated but it could not be disclosed. Is it not? Now the present answer is that he has not estimated the loss at all. The answerthen given was that the information could not be published then. It was assumed that the Comptroller had estimated the loss but you were not prepared to give the information at that stage. The present answer would show that he has not estimated the loss at all. Now the answer is not correct.

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—The Comptroller has not estimated the loss.

President.—Why could you not say it there? One may infer that there was some information available, but that you were unable to disclose it then. Now you say he has not estimated the loss. The former answer may not be quite correct.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Perhaps the loss was estimated by the officer in charge of the local audit.

President.—By whom was the loss estimated? Did the local audit officer estimate the loss ?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—Government estimated the loss.

President.—Not the Comptroller ?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—No.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know the amount of loss that was estimated ?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—The loss was estimated at about 13 thousand and odd rupees.

Audit report of the Southern Divisional Forest Office.

216. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to place on the Table of the House the audit report of the accounts of the Southern Divisional Forest Office for the 1st quarter of 1103 with the connected report on the accounts of the Office of the Conservator of Forests ?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—Government regret that, in the interests of the Departments concerned, they are unable to place the reports on the Table.

Amount spent as T. A. on account of the Legislative Council.

217. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state in print in a tabular form the amount of T. A. drawn (1) for Legislative Council work, (2) as Members of Committees appointed by Government and the Council by the non-official Members of the Cochin Legislative Council from the date of inception of the Council till now ?

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